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Our Case No. 9793/73

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

*Pre Amended  
O/A*

In re Application of: )  
)  
Johann Karl et al. )  
)  
Serial No.: New Application ) Examiner: To be assigned  
)  
Filing Date: Herewith ) Group Art Unit No.: To be assigned  
)  
)  
For: Assay for the Detection of N- )  
Terminal proBNP )  
)

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application on the merits, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 1-19 without prejudice to their further prosecution in a continuation and/or divisional application.

Please add new claims 20-140 as follows:

20. (New) A method of identifying N-terminal proBNP in a sample comprising:  
detecting a complex of the N-terminal proBNP, a first antibody, and a  
second antibody; wherein  
the first antibody is specific to a first epitope of the N-terminal  
proBNP;  
the second antibody is specific to a second epitope of the N-  
terminal proBNP; and